

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



FISCAL NOTE

HB 1354 - SB 1287

March 4, 2011

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires dental hygienists graduate from a dental hygiene program accredited by the American Dental Association's Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA). Adds administering nitrous oxide and local anesthesia to the list of tasks dental hygienists can perform under the direct supervision of a licensed dentist. Defines the practice of dental hygiene as the performance of preventive, educational, and therapeutic services that includes the removal of the stain from teeth and polishing natural and restored surfaces of teeth. Removes specific duties dental hygienists are currently authorized to perform, including, but not limited to removing all hard and soft deposits by scaling or curettage from teeth surfaces.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- Pursuant to Board of Dentistry rules governing the practice of dental hygienists (Chapter 0460-03), licensed dental hygienists are already authorized to administer nitrous oxide and local anesthesia under the direct supervision of a licensed dentist and to remove stains from teeth and polish natural and restored surfaces of teeth.
- The proposed definition of the practice of dental hygiene is also found in Chapter 0460-03 of the Board's rules.
- Dental hygienists are currently required to graduate from a program accredited by CODA pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 63-5-114.
- According to the Department of Health, specific duties removed from the Tenn. Code Ann. § 63-5-108(c) can be included in the general description of dental hygiene.
- The proposed legislation will not result in a significant administrative, regulatory, or fiscal impact to the Department or the Board. Any rulemaking can be accomplished during regularly scheduled Board meetings and will not result in a significant increase in expenditures.

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- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 4-3-1011, all health-related boards are required to be self-supporting over a two-year period. As of June 30, 2010, the Board had a balance of \$1,307,071.06.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James W. White, Executive Director

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